

Dress Right, Dress

AFI 36-2903, Table 1.4

Sideburns shall be neatly trimmed and tapered in the same manner as the haircut. They shall be straight, even (not flared) and end in a clean-shaven horizontal line. They shall not extend below the lowest part of the exterior ear opening. This does not apply to Airmen with shaving waivers. (Courtesy of the Spangdahlem AB First Sergeants Council)



News Briefs

Correction

In the Dec. 3 *Eifel Times*, Airman 1st Class Aleasha Mooring and Airman Gladys Robinson were listed in the wrong squadron. They are each in the 52nd Mission Support Squadron.

Operation Season's Greetings

Blues Traveler and the New England Patriots cheerleaders combine with the Band of the U.S. Air Force Reserve and the U.S. Air Forces in Europe Band to provide holiday cheer here Saturday at 7 p.m. in the Skelton Memorial Fitness Center. Come out and enjoy the free show. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Housing trash policy

Receipt of housing bulk trash into the Spangdahlem AB and Bitburg Annex recycling centers has recently increased by nearly 40 percent. Therefore, the 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron will re-establish monthly bulk trash service. This service will be available by appointment, and housing building leaders will need to contact the 52nd CES prior to the established bulk trash day to arrange pick-up for their respective facilities. For details about the new bulk trash policy, call Senior Master Sgt. Ron Kruse at 452-4879.

Holiday lighting competition

The Military Family Housing area "Holiday Lighting" competition kicks off Wednesday. Holiday decorations should be in good taste. Winners will be selected based on their use of attractive decorations, not on the amount of lights. To help conserve energy, lights should not be left on during day-light hours. Exterior lights may be on after dark and should be turned off no later than 10 p.m., except for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. For more information, call Connie Chance at 452-7944.

AMDS closure

The 52nd Aerospace Medicine Squadron will be closed from 1-4:30 p.m. Dec. 17 for a squadron function. For emergency care, report to the Bitburg Annex emergency room.

Civilian award winners

The wing lauds the July through September 2004 third quarter wing-level civilians of the quarter: junior level, **Ingo Wahlert**, 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron; mid-level, **Mandy Baerman**, 52nd Aerospace Medicine Squadron; and senior level, **Ralf Weinrebe**, 52nd CES.

Road closure

Smith Avenue will be closed to all traffic Tuesday and Wednesday, from Arnold Boulevard to the Spangdahlem AB clinic. Traffic flow will enter and exit from the detour starting near the bowling alley. The barriers that are placed between the clinic and the bowling alley are removed to accommodate the new traffic flow. For more information, call construction management at 452-7214.

A-1 on A-10s

Find out how a Saber became the Air Force's top sortie producer and won the 2004 Lew Allen Award.

Read "Sergeant 'conducts' orchestra on flightline; receives prestigious Air Force-level award," on Page 4



Eifel Times

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Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany

Dec. 10, 2004



Staff Sgt. Jennifer Lindsey

Bagram relief

BAGRAM AIR BASE, Afghanistan -- Senior Airman Jason Weiss, 455th Expeditionary Operations Group medical technician, checks a Kharoti villager's ears and throat to see if the man experiences discomfort. Through an interpreter, the Afghan complained of facial pain and congestion to Airman Weiss, who administered antibiotics to cure the infection. In about three hours, the medical technician evaluated and provided minimal treatment for about 60 patients. He is deployed to Afghanistan from Spangdahlem Air Base in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Sabers remember 'Battle of the Bulge'

By Maj. Joshua Kastenber
52nd Fighter Wing Judge Advocate Group

Spangdahlem Air Base Airmen will "travel through time" Dec. 18 to experience history in a re-enactment of the events of "The Battle of the Bulge" in Bastogne, a small rural town in southeast Belgium.

"It's important for us, as Americans, to visit and remember these events so our veterans' accomplishments don't fade away into history," said Tech. Sgt. Daniel Williams, 52nd Component Maintenance Squadron avionics sensor systems craftsman. "Visiting places such as Normandy, Arnhem and Bastogne allows us to get a deeper understanding of the heroic feats of our military forefathers, and enables us to pay tribute to our greatest generation."

From the breakout of the Normandy beaches in July 1944 through the fall of 1944, the Soldiers and Airmen of allied armies and air forces pushed through France into Belgium and the Netherlands.

In the south, roughly 120,000 men of the U.S. Third Army, under the command of Gen. George Patton Jr., and a similar number from the U.S. Seventh Army, pushed opposing German forces across the frontier into Germany. The two armies fell under the command of Gen. Omar Bradley. In the north, British, Canadian and American armies fought through Belgium and the Netherlands.

By November, the ability to supply these large numbers of men was hampered by both bad weather and combat success of the Third Army in the south, who outran its supply lines. Adolf Hitler believed that a successful offensive against the British and Americans could force them to sue for peace. The remaining German might then would be concentrated against Russia.

The Ardennes, a thick forest between the commands of Montgomery and Bradley, was a lightly defended area. German forces used the Ardennes to their advantage once before. In 1940, the German army invaded Belgium and France through the Ardennes, catching both countries by surprise, and ultimately defeating them.

Attempting to match the successes of their past in the Ardennes, the Nazi troops took advantage of the allies' lack of air support during the inclement weather conditions; they concentrated their armored tanks in the surrounding forests and employed commando units to disrupt American communications.

Hitler's primary focus was the port city of Antwerp. Without Antwerp, allied supplies would be cut in half. However, the allied forces who faced his armies in 1944 were better trained, far more numerous and better equipped than those in 1940. Plus, the maj-



Tech. Sgt. Daniel Williams

An unknown Belgian re-enactor briefs others during the Bastogne Perimeter Historic Walk in 2002 near Bizory village, about four kilometers east of Bastogne. The briefer described the history of the battle's engagements in that town. He also explained how residents of the village gave their white bed sheets to U.S. forces to use as winter camouflage.

ority of U.S. and British forces were battle hardened, unlike the French and Belgians of 1940.

On Dec. 16, 1944, the German forces punched through the Ardennes, catching U.S. forces off guard. The German offensive continued for a short time. The men of the 101st found themselves surrounded, but for one month fought a vicious series of small battles in horrible weather conditions. The 101st held out around Bastogne, Belgium, until the Third Army launched a counter-offensive into German lines. During this time, the German commander sought surrender from the 101st. The now famous reply from Deputy Commander Gen. Anthony MacAuliffe was, "Nuts."

This singular phrase embodied the determination of the U.S. soldiers fighting in the Battle of Bulge. The people of Belgium, France and Luxembourg were liberated from oppression; the United States would not surrender them back. As the 101st held out, the Third Army, facing the same weather conditions, advanced north into Bastogne, blunting the German offensive. By mid-January, the German army was halted and could not undertake any further offensive operations.

The "Battle of the Bulge," victory was achieved by the courage of the men who fought under brutal conditions and held the German forces from achieving their objectives.

"I'm looking forward to visiting Bastogne and participating in the perimeter walk," said Gary Sakura, 52nd Mission Support Squadron civilian personnel office systems manager. "I want to pay respect to my fellow servicemen who fought during one of the greatest American battles of the 20th century."

DUI, inattentive driving, speeding cause crashes

By David A. Barker

52nd Security Forces Squadron

Over the past two weeks, 27 car crashes and accidents occurred; nine of them were classified as major collisions. One Team Eifel member was cited for driving under the influence.

A senior airman from the 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron drove into a ditch after electing to drink and drive. The wing member blew a .165 on a breathalyzer.

The first major collision occurred on BAB 555 when one car passed another.

Speeding caused the second major crash, which occurred on the K-38. The driver struck a tree head-on, then spun around and hit one more with the tail of the vehicle.

The third crash occurred on U-10, a detour from B-51. Driving too fast for conditions on black ice and striking a tree ended the trip for the driver.

A car flipped repeatedly in the fourth major crash on B-50. The driver was speeding and slid off the road, rolling the

car to a stop in a nearby ditch.

Crashing into a black and white pole on K-38, then running into the guardrail caused major crash number five.

One driver passed another in the other at-fault major accident on A-3. The driver, whose vehicle was passed, hit a guardrail.

Inattentive driving and speeding caused the seventh major collision at Arnold Boulevard, near building 183.

A spilled soda and inattentive driving caused the eighth major crash along Arnold Boulevard, near the post office. Sabers are reminded that it is not advised to eat, drink or use a cell phone while driving in Europe.

Team Eifel's last major crash was on L-46 and was the result of speeding.

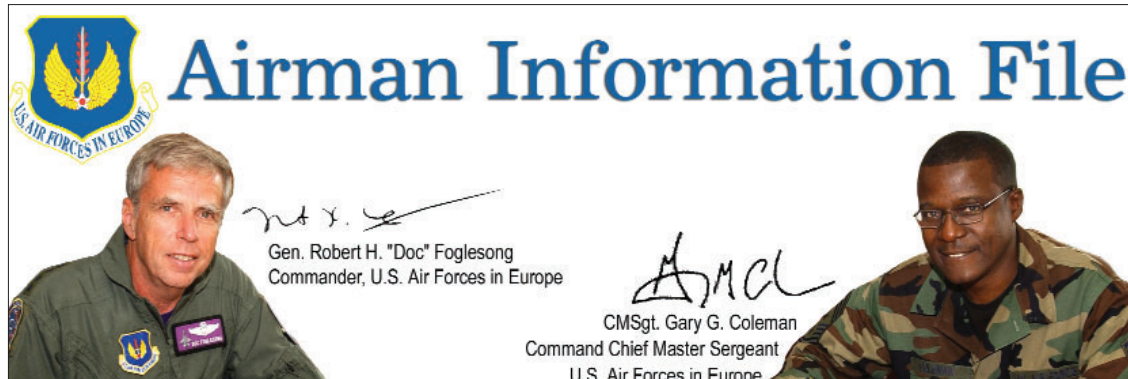
Team Eifel members were involved in 18 minor accidents: three were from driving too fast for conditions, four were from improper backing, five were from inattentive driving, one was a DUI, one was a failure to yield and four were from following too closely.



Tech. Sgt. Andrew Rodier

Chief Murray visits

Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Garcia, (center), 52nd Mission Support Squadron Pitsenbarger Airman Leadership School instructor, looks on as Staff Sgt. Omeaterance Mewborn, (left) 52nd MSS ALS instructor, is greeted by Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald R. Murray during his visit to ALS here Dec. 1 during his trip to Germany. Chief Murray said it all comes down to people being the Air Force's greatest resource. "We are absolutely proud of what our Airmen are doing," said the Chief while on a two-week tour of U.S. Air Forces in Europe bases. "They're doing new missions today that have emerged based on the threat ... and they're doing them remarkably well. This is a volunteer service. (My job) is to thank Airmen for that service and to help them look at things objectively. I've served for 27 years now, and as I look back on it, with all of its challenges -- ups and downs and all -- it's been a great way of life."



December 2004

Service Before Self -- It's Bigger Than Us!

Integrity first, Service before Self and Excellence in all we do -- these are the Air Force core values. Service before Self is often quoted but not always fully understood. It's frequently used as a catchphrase to motivate subordinates to do the less desirable jobs, but the real meaning is much deeper than this.

We are professional Airmen on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to guard and defend the freedom of America -- a grave responsibility we should not take lightly. As Airmen, we belong to something much larger than our individual units. We're members of the USAFE team, which forms a vital part of our Air Force, and ultimately we're all Americans.

Laying aside our own agenda to accomplish the mission is the essence of Service before Self. It's the exact opposite of careerism, where individuals only focus on what is best for their personal careers. It means doing all we can for our unit which translates to the success of the Air Force and America. This core value is exemplified when Airmen willingly make personal sacrifices for the greater cause of our nation. Many have made the ultimate sacrifice by giving their lives in defense of our freedom.

On the practical side, Service before Self means we follow the rules. Don't bend or break them for personal gain or gratification. It means we respect each other and value everyone's individual contributions to the team. Discipline and self-control are key elements that allow us to achieve this core value. Finally, have faith in the system. When you think you know best and disregard those above, you've lost faith in the system and place self before service.

One of the greatest strengths of America is our single unity of purpose. We have the freedom to voice our opinions and discuss national issues in our government. Often these can be very emotional and heated debates, but in the end America has always stood unified in the face of opposition. This unity of purpose is clearly seen from the Revolutionary War to present day operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. It's a direct result of Americans setting aside personal desires and uniting against a common threat for the greater good of our nation and others.

Service before Self -- it's bigger than each individual. Thanks for continuing to place Service before Self as we guard the freedoms of America!

Roll safely into winter with these tire tread tips

By Tech. Sgt. Theresa Lex
52nd Fighter Wing Safety Office

In addition to maintaining proper tire pressure, here are tips for making sure vehicles are ready for upcoming winter weather.

- ♦ **Install four snow tires** -- To help maintain control and stability of vehicles in slippery conditions, snow tires must be installed in sets of four.
- ♦ **Watch tread** -- As a tire wears, snow traction is reduced. Tires that are worn close to the tread-wear indicators have reduced traction and should not be used on snow-covered roads or in severe snow conditions.
- ♦ **No mixing** -- Avoid mixing tires with different tread patterns, internal construction and size. This degrades the stability of the vehicle.
- The following are some differences between all-season and weather tires.
- ♦ **Winter tires** have tread designs specifically designed to improve snow and ice traction.
- ♦ Wider and frequently "zigzagged" grooves enhance winter traction by providing more efficient drainage of water and snow.
- ♦ Unlike older snow tires, smaller shoulder grooves increase snow and ice traction without sacrificing handling on dry roads or on the highway.
- ♦ Special lug and groove shapes allow more snow to be packed into the tread and expelled as the tire rotates for better deep snow traction.
- ♦ Sophisticated, high-density sipe

designs (sipes are the little slits in the tread surface) help cut through water and slush so the tread compound can make better contact with snow and ice.

♦ Rounder casing designs add traction by cutting into the snow's surface.

All-season tires do not include these features and still deliver the wear and high temperature traction that is required for driving during other times of the year.

♦ Shoulder blocks and groove designs are a "compromise" that must meet cornering, wear and all-season traction requirements.

♦ Less aggressive tread designs deliver more highway ride comfort, but tend to pack and not expel snow as effectively as winter tires.

♦ Less siping is used.

♦ Flatter tread designs enhance dry traction but do not cut into snow effectively.

To help in selecting a winter tire that improves the margin of safety, the Rubber Manufacturers Association designates winter tires that meet the new severe snow standard with a symbol.

Any tire is a compromise because no one tire can be the fastest on the track, most controllable in the snow and longest wearing. The ultra high performance tire that grips the track with tread temperatures of 200 degrees is useless in winter as its tread compound becomes like hard plastic at temperatures below 32 degrees.



Senior Master Sgt. James Reese

Top Saber Performer

Name: Tech. Sgt. James A. Wells Jr.
Unit: 52nd Fighter Wing Legal Office
Duty Title: Civil Law Division NCOIC
Hometown: Winchester, Tenn.
Years in Service: 13
Nominee's contributions to 52nd Fighter Wing mission success: Sergeant Wells has quickly made an impact on the success of this wing. He re-engineered the legal assistance section by expanding the number of hours the judge advocate group has available to see clients -- that means more clients seen and more legal assistance issues solved. Additionally, Sergeant Wells instituted a program whereby legal personnel travel to the squadrons during air expeditionary force ramp up to take care of the warfighter's wills, powers of attorney and other legal assistance issues, instead of the wing member having to find time to make it to the legal office.

Off-duty volunteerism and professional development pursuits: Since his selection for master sergeant, Sergeant Wells enrolled in Course 12, the Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy Correspondence Course. Sergeant Wells is also pursuing a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and has been involved with holiday events such as the fall bazaar, Angel Tree program and Operation Warm Heart.

What do you do for fun? Spending time with my wife and children is the best, but I also enjoy playing golf, playing pool, bowling and fishing. Recently, we took a three-day trip to Paris. Traveling by train was great, and the sights were amazing.

What do you like most about being stationed here: First, you have to take advantage of the travel opportunities. There are so many beautiful things to see around Europe. Second, my team at the legal office is the best and having that type of working environment makes everything so much easier and enjoyable.

What's one thing you'd like to see changed or improved at Spangdahlem Air Base? I don't have any improvement suggestions at the moment. Since I arrived four months ago, we've already made positive changes around the base and community. I am very anxious to see how our new club will look and what services it will provide.

Saber connect



Airman 1st Class Joshua E. Coleman

Airman 1st Class Brent Hinton, 52nd Equipment Maintenance Squadron precision guidance munitions crew member, and Senior Airman Joseph McCabe, 52nd EMS precision guidance munitions crew member, look on as Col. Dave Goldfein, 52nd Fighter Wing commander, checks out a Maverick Guided Missile Test Set as part of the *Commander's Mentorship Program* here recently. A Daytona Beach, Fla., native with three years of Air Force service under his belt, Airman McCabe cited his associate's degree in business administration and management from Daytona Beach Community College, and his associate's degree in Applied Science from the Community College of the Air Force as noteworthy accomplishments.

Eifel Salutes

52nd Mission Support Group

Keeping it in the family is the Spangdahlem AB Family Support Center; its staff always takes care of our most important asset -- families. Ready, set, salute to **Tech. Sgt. Jonathan McDonald** and **Staff Sgt. Lillian Barnes** from the military personnel flight's personnel readiness unit -- they ensure the smoothest possible flow of deployments. Brad Pitt's got nothing on this Troy ... **Master Sgt. Troy Hendrix** is the stellar action shirt for the 52nd Mission Support Squadron.

52nd Maintenance Group

It's not just a phase for **Tech. Sgt. Scott Suttles**; **Staff Sgts. William Garrett** and **Joshua Brewster**; and **Senior Airman Joseph Phillips**, who superbly prepared 54 troops and 125 short tons of equipment for deployment during a recent Phase 1 exercise -- no discrepancies noted. It's smooth moves for **1st Lt. Neal Wilson**, whose management skills ensured more than 9,000 on-time munitions movements and support of more than 9,000 training sorties. It was mo' better mobility for **Staff Sgts. James Mitchell** and **Chris Good**, whose outstanding preparation and execution of the mobility plan processed more than 100 pieces of equipment with zero write-ups. On target are **Staff Sgt. Keith Gratien** and **Tech. Sgt. Kevin Wilson**, whose troubleshooting will double the F-16's capability to deliver lethal precision guided weapons.



38th Munitions Maintenance Group

This trainer's on track ... **Tech. Sgt. Eldon Fletcher** won the 38th Combat Support Wing 2004 Junior Enlisted Unit-Level Education and Training Manager Award. The 701st Munitions Support Squadron has "Taylor" made security with **Staff Sgt. Richard D. Taylor Jr.**, who provides 24-hour, joint host

nation and U.S. security command and control in the protection of a weapons arsenal valued at more than \$500 million. He also serves at the primary security operations center for the U.S. and Belgium NATO strike mission during contingencies.

52nd Medical Group

Great Caesar! **Maj. Kenda Smith**; **Cpts. Michelle Sanchez** and **Krista Gray**; **Senior Airman Racquel Johnson**; and **Airman 1st Class Misty Cole** and **Petra Golson** offered invaluable assistance with three Caesarian sections over a long weekend. Rockin' around the clock is **Sabine Bettendorf**, who jumped in and learned a new patient scheduling system in minimal time. We're talkin' turkey about the **52nd Aerospace Medicine Squadron morale committee** for organizing a great Thanksgiving luncheon, led by **Staff Sgt. Vanessa Evans** and **Cynthia Davis**.

Kudos to all; Team Eifel salutes you!

(Compiled by Senior Airman Amaani Lyle, 52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office)



Senior Master Sgt. James Reese

Top Saber Team

Unit name: 52nd Fighter Wing Civil Law Section

A brief description of unit responsibilities: The Civil Law section is responsible for interacting face-to-face with clients who deal with legal problems or issues such as landlord-tenant, divorce, financial, wills and estates, powers of attorney and myriad other legal issues. Most of the interaction is done at the legal office, but it is also done during the mobility processing line and in the member's squadron. Additionally, team members perform legal reviews on packages such as early return of dependent, administrative discharges, reports of survey, contracts, line of duty determinations and private organization fundraising requests.

Number of members: Six

How does the team fit into the 52nd Fighter Wing's mission? Primarily, the Civil Law team members ensure that Sabers have their legal affairs in order prior to deploying. Also, each legal review done on the many packages that are routed through the legal office helps to keep commanders and their agencies in accordance with the law and Air Force directives.

Team's other contributions through the year? In order to ensure Team Eifel's members are ready to deploy, the team worked mobility processing lines leading up to the recent air expeditionary force 2 rotation, offering legal assistance to hundreds of deploying warfighters. Then, they have also traveled to the squadrons whose members have deployed, offering legal assistance in the squadron. They are also responsible for giving the Law of Armed Conflict briefings annually and on request.

Incentive flight gives AFJROTC students taste of military life

By 2nd Lt. Shannon Collins
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

With intense precision and accuracy, the pilot lines his aircraft up with the boom -- not quite there. He backs up and slowly moves in -- made it. The boom operator makes contact and releases the fuel. Then the boom operator releases the boom and gives the thumbs up as the pilot salutes and rolls out, eager to continue his mission.

About 13 Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets from Bitburg High School recently rode in a KC-135 *Stratotanker* piloted by the Alaska Air National Guard and saw the refueling of an E-3 Airborne Warning and Control System aircraft from NATO Air Base, Geilenkirchen.

"Although the flight was very long, it was a memorable experience. It was great to see the mission and to have a broader view on military jobs and activities," said Cadet Senior Airman Natasha Rosales, 15, daughter of Tech. Sgt. Robert Rosales, 52nd Component Maintenance Squadron.

Cadet Tech. Sgt. Andy Sukut, 17, son of Master Sgt. Sheldon Sukut, 606th Air Control Squadron, also enjoyed the experience.

"Riding in the KC-135 was fun; it was interesting to watch them refueling AWACS aircraft," he said. "It enlightened me on another career field that I might be interested in. I am considering joining the military."

Senior aerospace science instructor Lt. Col. Raynor Buckley said trips like this are good recruiting tools.

"Programs like this do influence the cadets toward wanting to join the Air Force, because it introduces another opportunity or career field to the cadets," he said. "It is important to have programs like this to expose the cadets to various job opportunities and responsibilities of the Air Force."

The AFJROTC program and the refueling mission have already helped Cadet Rosales with the decision of her future. She plans on attending the U.S. Air Force Academy.

"Serving in the Air Force Junior ROTC program has been an experience unlike any other," she said. "Through it, I have learned leadership, responsibility and respect. I am proud to be a part of it."

"Having programs like AFJROTC is vital, especially in high school, when most teenagers are rebellious and need to have programs like this to teach them how to show respect and how to be a leader," she added.

Cadet Sukut agreed.

"AFJROTC teaches leadership and gets you ready for the real world," he said.



Lt. Col. Raynor Buckley

An E-3 Airborne Warning and Control System aircraft prepares for an inflight refuel by a KC-135 piloted by the Alaska Air National Guard. About 13 Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets from Bitburg High School rode in a KC-135 during a recent visit here. The cadets were able to experience the mission and broaden their view of military jobs and activities.

New 'Club Eifel' opens next month, offers enhanced fare, entertainment

By Senior Airman Amaani Lyle
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

The newest club in U.S. Air Forces in Europe opens its doors here next month, when members can enjoy a state-of-the-art, collocated hot spot with shared dining facilities and lounges for both officers and enlisted members.

Officially open for business Jan. 29, Club Eifel's festival-style grand open house Jan. 28 will include food sampling, prize giveaways, musical entertainment and the unveiling of "J.R. Rockers" sports lounge, a family-oriented eatery, said Robyn Sleeth, 52nd Services Squadron deputy commander.

"Everything about the new club is an enhancement from the old club, but the biggest upgrade is the ballroom," Mr. Sleeth said. "Within the ballroom are five separate meeting rooms, complete with large projector screen capability and a high-tech sound system."

Mr. Sleeth said the estimated \$10 million project includes the addition of a new hair salon, gift shop and gaming room.

The club has also kept a contract with an entertainment company that offers a wide variety of themes and music genres, including the return of the well-known karaoke night.

"The contract with our entertainment company gets us a lot more than just 'disc spinners,'" the deputy commander said. "We're getting a variety of fine musical entertainment nearly every day -- and now there's something for everyone."

Despite Club Eifel's expanded hours, broader entertainment and considerable increase in square footage, Mr. Sleeth said some things will remain the same.

"Our lunch buffets have been a mainstay and will continue, and there'll be no increase in membership dues once the club opens," he said.

Some members who have gotten a sneak preview tour of the near-complete facility have expressed anticipation about the gala event next month.



Airman 1st Class Eydie Sakura

Lisa Stevens, 52nd Services Squadron marketing director, leads a group on a recent tour of the club. The 44,000 square-foot facility is near the 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron and 52nd Security Forces Squadron dormitories.

"The old club was somewhat plain in contrast to this very flashy and modernized facility," said Kjersti Paladino, spouse of Capt. Darren Paladino, 22nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron officer in charge. "Club Eifel will definitely be more of a place where I could see myself hanging out on a Friday night."

Mr. Sleeth said he aims to make Club Eifel a "home away from home" any day of the week for club members.

"We want to instill a sense of ownership and pride in our members," he said. "We also want them to be able to say, 'You can't afford not to be a member.'"

For employment or general information about the new Club Eifel, call 452-6090.

Sergeant 'conducts' orchestra on flightline; receives prestigious Air Force-level award

Story and photo illustration by
Airman 1st Class Eydie Sakura
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

Conducting a symphony is what one 81st Aircraft Maintenance Unit lead production superintendent exceeds at while working alongside Airmen and pilots -- the people who make the A-10 *Warthogs* fly high above the Eifel.

The flightline is like an orchestra, made up of maintenance, schedules, plans, airplanes, tools and people. The orchestra's melodic harmony can be music to the ears; or the symphony could sound like a bunch of random noise, without a confident and organized conductor.

Master Sgt. Timothy Peasley, 81st AMU, was recently selected as the Air Force's top sortie producer, winning the prestigious 2004 Lew Allen Award; which recognizes outstanding job performance, job knowledge, proven leadership and direct sortie production.

"To be the number one sortie producer in the Air Force places you above a huge field of experts across several commands and airframes," Sergeant Peasley said. "With all the events going on in the world and with all the deployments, it's definitely a huge honor."

His efforts pole-vaulted the 81st AMU ahead of all units in the A-10 community. He manages all sortie pro-



Master Sgt. Timothy Peasley, 81st Aircraft Maintenance Unit lead production superintendent, verifies an A-10 *Warthog* for flight after all the forms and maintenance have been done.

duction and maintenance efforts here for approximately 20 A-10s -- valued at more than \$268 million.

Valuing the people who make the A-10s fly is the part of the job for the award winner's supervisor.

"Sergeant Peasley is an extraordinarily gifted planner who sees and plans

long-range. In order to be successful in this career field, you need to see further than tomorrow, next week or next month," said Senior Master Sgt. James Callahan, 81st AMU maintenance superintendent. "He's very humble and lets his work speak for him; he's an effective planner who gives 100 percent every day and is not in it for the credit."

Last year, Sergeant Peasley exceeded the production standards for the flying hour program, enabling the 81st Fighter Squadron to maintain vital pilot upgrade currency to support NATO and higher headquarters taskings.

His team garnered 100 percent mission accomplishment by filling all air tasking orders from U.S. Air Forces and U.S. Central Command, said Sergeant Callahan.

"The success of the AMU, the squadron and the group starts with effective planning and swift execution," he added. "We are the best in the Air Force for the A-10s, and Sergeant Peasley made the whole unit successful, which in turn has brought the light on him."

Having the light shine on him is something Sergeant Peasley is not used to.

"I'm not one for talking myself up," Sergeant Peasley said. "My favorite part of the job is the people. It's the satisfaction of seeing the aircraft get off the ground and knowing you did your part to make the mission happen."

Prepare to fight



Fight to win



Take care of each other

Col. Dave Goldfein.....Commander
Capt. Thomas Crosson.....Public affairs chief
1st Lt. Mike Cumberworth.....PA deputy
Master Sgt. Sean E. Cobb.....PA superintendent
2nd Lt. Shannon Collins.....Internal chief
Senior Airman Amaani Lyle.....Editor
Airman 1st Class Eydie Sakura.....Staff writer
Iris Reiff.....Leisure writer

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Accessing Direct Line

The Direct Line program is a way to get answers to questions you still have after using your chain of command.

Direct Lines of general interest will be published in the *Eifel Times* and may be edited or paraphrased for brevity or clarity. Submit your Direct Line via:

■ DirectLine@spangdahlem.af.mil

■ Mailed to 52nd FW/PA, Unit 3680 Box 220, APO AE 09126

■ To PA in building 23.

■ Concerns may also be sent via fax to 452-5254.

Anonymous inputs are accepted. To receive a personal response you must include your name and phone number. Call the Eifel Times at 452-5244 for more information.



Col. Dave Goldfein

December Sortie Scoreboard

Aircraft	Goal	Flown	Delta
22FS	277	69	+12
23FS	304	88	+24
81FS	405	101	+19

*Delta is contract vs. sorties flown to date.

Through Dec. 6

Courtesy of the
52nd Operations Support Squadron
Plans and Scheduling Section

Viewpoint

Dec. 10, 2004

Page 5

Readiness

Wing Plans chief urges Airmen to stay ready by following Saber mission goals

By Lt. Col. George Day

52nd Fighter Wing Plans, Programs and Inspections chief

Readiness. It's a pretty common word, especially for those of us in the Air Force. We're reminded of it all the time -- Readiness Council, combat readiness, Ready.Gov (U.S. Department of Homeland Security), TRICARE Family Readiness. Have you ever wondered why we train and exercise so often? We do it so that we -- as a wing, as a unit, as a team -- are ready.

What exactly is readiness? Here are some synonyms which define as much an individual attitude as they do a state of being: eagerness, preparation, good will, willingness and fitness. I'd even go one step further and say readiness is the attitude of anticipating the worst, yet expecting the best.

Don't get me wrong -- readiness is not some level of perfection. Gen. Omar Bradley, a famous World War II Army general who led U.S. troops in the D-Day invasion of the Normandy beaches of France, said, "I learned that good judgment comes from experience, and that experience grows out of mistakes."

Along the way to reaching that level called "experienced," people will encounter difficult solutions or even failure. Of course, it sure helps to learn from the mistakes of others, but I can guarantee from personal experience that we sometimes like to find out for ourselves.

Here in the 52nd Fighter Wing, our command-

“ **The U.S. Declaration of Independence speaks volumes in the simple citing of three God-given rights for all: life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Many have fought and died in fervent defense of these principles. We find true strength in the bonds established when we regard each other as worthy.** ”

er has categorized the wing goals into three simple areas, defined by the state of readiness.

♦ **Prepare to fight.** This is what the 52nd FW Sabers are all about. Not only do we train in our duties on a daily basis, but we exercise our missions too, through Phase I deployment and Phase II employment exercises, Full Spectrum Threat Response exercises, Saber Strikes, weapons training deployments ... the list goes on. As we plan and execute, we become more experienced to handle most situations. This leads us to ...

♦ **Fight to win.** This speaks to that right attitude again. Many in our wing are deployed right now to Iraq, Afghanistan and other parts of the world

and are engaged in the most important conflict of our time -- the Global War on Terrorism. Our cause has but one acceptable outcome for those who cherish freedom: win.

♦ **Take care of each other.** The U.S. Declaration of Independence speaks volumes in the simple citing of three God-given rights for all: life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Many have fought and died in fervent defense of these principles. We find true strength in the bonds established when we regard each other as worthy.

Let me give a personal example of readiness from a top role model. My father, as a result of his experiences in World War II and the Korean War, was ready when he was called to lead a fighter squadron to Vietnam. He and his fellow squadron mates were ready to tackle and perfect a new mission as they took the fight to the enemy. When he met failure -- shot down by enemy fire -- he was ready to escape and evade the enemy for more than two weeks. When recaptured, he was ready to suffer at the hands of his captors in mutual support of his fellow prisoners of war for another 67 months. And he was readied for all this by a loving wife, deserving friends, a grateful nation and a faithful God.

Readiness is at the heart of our life events. When a readiness attitude permeates an individual or team, nothing is an obstacle to success.

Direct Line

Cable TV issues

Question: The TKS Movie Channel has been offered in the last six months. It was free for the first month, so I ordered it for my children. Nine euros seemed to be a fairly good price since my teenagers rent lots of movies. Ratings on most movies are PG-13 and some are R.

One night, one of my children was sick. I turned on the TKS Movie Channel, and I was horrified to see hard core pornography on. I immediately turned it off and said we aren't watching any television. My child didn't see what was on. I didn't know that X-rated movies would be on a cable service accepted by the armed forces. TKS never told me they would eventually add pornography.

I called TKS in Bitburg, and a clerk said the soldiers requested pornography. I was under the

impression that pornography was against the law.

I also asked TKS if the channel could be turned off immediately. I don't want my children to see this. TKS said it takes one month to get it turned off. I believe TKS should warn you about this. Children could watch "Finding Nemo" one minute and pornography the next. When I was young, people could only get pornography in XXX adult shops. We didn't even have such a shop in my town.

I believe something needs to be done, but I also believe pornography should not be accepted in the armed forces. Our commander in chief says, "One nation under God," and he believes it.

Answer: Thank you for giving me the opportunity to address this concern. TKS does in fact offer adult programming under its cable television services and has been doing so on the TKS Movie Channel for several months.

After receiving your concerns, Army and Air Force Exchange Services has directed TKS to notify any customer considering the TKS Movie Channel that the channel offers adult programming.

Additionally, TKS has been directed to notify all current TKS Movie Channel subscribers in the Eifel community that adult programs are shown on the movie channel.

The TKS Movie Channel is a commercial, pay channel, which users must subscribe to separately from the basic cable package. The programming schedule for all TKS cable channels, including the movie channel, is published monthly in *R&R Magazine*. Their adult programming is marked in the public channel guide as "Adult Programming, Not Rated," and it is never broadcast before midnight.

In regard to the information you were given -- that it takes one month to turn off the movie channel, this is only partially correct. The TKS cancellation policy is that service is normally disconnected at the end of the month in which cancellation is requested. Thus, it could take 30 days if cancellation is

requested at the beginning of the month. It could be less. If immediate cancellation of any cable or subscription service is requested due to a customer not agreeing with or being uncomfortable with the programming, TKS offices in both base exchanges are more than willing to call TKS headquarters to see if it can be turned off immediately.

If this is requested, TKS can have service turned off normally no later than the end of the business day, if the cancellation is received by 1 p.m. Otherwise, it will be turned off effective the next business day, and the customer will only be partially billed for the month.

At this point, TKS has no record of any customers coming into either TKS facility to request an immediate cancellation of TKS cable service due to a reason like this. If they had, we assure you services would have been turned off immediately.

TKS cable service information

For more information about TKS cable service programming, call:
Spangdahlem AB TKS: 06565-933844
Bitburg Annex TKS: 06561-948945



Community Mailbox

Submit "Community Mailbox" advertisements 10 days before the desired publication date to publicity@spangdahlem.af.mil.



Children's Christmas party

The 52nd Equipment Maintenance Squadron holds its children's Christmas party Sunday from 2-5 p.m. at building 101, the aircraft washrack. Bring a pre-wrapped \$5-10 gift to the 52nd EMS first sergeant's office by 4:30 p.m. today so children can receive a gift. For more information, call Master Sgt. John Buskey at 452-7963.

Holiday dorm baskets

The Officers and Civilians Spouses Club needs volunteers and baked goods for the holiday dorm baskets. The OCSC has a drop-off point at Peter's restaurant on Spangdahlem AB Tuesday from 9-11 a.m. Now is the time to bake, donate and assemble goods such as cookies, bars and muffins, for more than 750 Airmen living in the dorms. For details, call Amy Garrison at 0160-9800-9234.

Student appreciation night

The Education Center and Department of Defense Dependents Schools hold a student appreciation night Wednesday from 4-6 p.m. at the Brick House. New and continuing students are welcome to attend. The festivities include food, beverages and chances to win door prizes. For details, e-mail Don Weitz at his global address.

Tree sale

Boy Scout troop 165 is selling Christmas trees now through Dec. 24 in the Spangdahlem AB commissary parking lot each weekend from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and weeknights from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. For details, call Tammy Rhein at 06575-901513 or Master Sgt. Dan DeMers at 452-6016.

Bitburg Elementary School

♦ Enjoy the BES Holiday Sing-Along Monday at 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. in the Bitburg Middle School auditorium. Students from all grades will be featured, and everyone is invited to sing along. For more information on when a child performs, call the elementary school at 452-9215 or 0656561-9215.

♦ The BES Winter Wonderland store is open Monday through Dec. 17 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the PTA

room, number 32. Families may shop Dec. 17 from 6-7:30 p.m. For details, e-mail bes_pta@yahoo.com

♦ The BES holds family activity night Dec. 17 from 5:30-8 p.m. at the BES cafeteria. For more information, e-mail bes_pta@yahoo.com.

Family Day

Enjoy Family Day Dec. 18 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Brick House. The day is filled with activities, such as playing gaming systems, foosball, pin-ball and board games. Children and parents can also make crafts and watch holiday movies together. For more information, call Kim McElfresh at 452-7381.

CDC part-day program

The Spangdahlem AB Child Development Center is accepting registrations for its part-day enrichment program, which runs each Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. The cost is based on total family income. Registration takes place at building 440. For details, call the CDC at 452-6697 or 06565-61-6697.

Commissary hours

The Spangdahlem AB and Bitburg Annex commissaries' holiday schedules are as follows:

- ♦ Dec. 20, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- ♦ Dec. 24, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- ♦ Dec. 25, Closed
- ♦ Dec. 27, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- ♦ Dec. 31, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- ♦ Jan. 1, Closed

For more information, call Alfredo Alferez at 452-9135 or e-mail him at alfredo.alferez@deca.mil; or call Kevin Kegler at 452-6606 or e-mail him at kevin.kegler@deca.mil.

Angel Tree program

Bring holiday cheer and joy to referred Team Eifel children with the the Air Force Sergeants Association's Angel Tree program, runs now until Dec. 19. Six angel trees located at Spangdahlem AB and Bitburg Annex base exchanges, BXtras and chapels, will be decorated with paper

ornaments listing a child's gender, age and requested donation. Each ornament represents a child for whom people can purchase a gift to drop in the provided donation boxes. The gifts will be distributed by squadron first sergeants Dec. 20. For details, call Master Sgts. Robert Hughes at 452-4457 or Thomas Wilson at 452-6303.

Youth center activities

Teen programs

The following events are for teens, ages 13-18, at the Bitburg Annex teen center, building 58.

♦ Come out and enjoy the Winter Ball Dec. 18 from 8 p.m. to midnight. The cost is \$5 for members and \$7 for non-members. There will be hors d'oeuvres, prizes to win and a photographer to help capture the memories.

♦ This year, get the party started Dec. 30 from 8 p.m. to midnight for the New Year's Eve party. The cost is \$5 for members and \$7 for non-members. Enjoy great fun, cool prizes and hang out with friends.

Youth programs

The following events are for pre-teens, ages 6-12, at the Spangdahlem AB Youth Center.

♦ Children have all the fun, including arts and crafts, face painting and dancing at the Holiday Bash Dec. 17 from 7-9 p.m. The cost is \$7 per person, and children can jump on the bouncy castle or decorate cookies.

Weekly programs

Develop great leadership skills, participate in activity planning and help with fund raising. Through community service, you can make a difference. Below is a list of upcoming events and activities:

- ♦ The Keystone Club meets each Tuesday at 5 p.m. (ages 14-18)
- ♦ The Torch Club meets each Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. (ages 10-12)
- ♦ The Power Hour meets daily from 3:30 to 5 p.m.
- ♦ The Babysitters' Club meets each Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. (ages 12-18)

Call the Bitburg Teen Center at 452-9206 or 06565-619206, or the Spangdahlem Youth Center at 452-7545 or 0656561-7545 for details.

Chapel Services



For more information on the chapel holiday schedule, call the chapel at 452-6711/6281.

Spangdahlem AB

Catholic Mass

- ♦ Tuesday, 6 p.m., Advent Penance
- ♦ Dec. 24, 7:30 p.m., Christmas Eve Mass
- ♦ Dec. 25, No Christmas Day Mass
- ♦ Dec. 31 - Jan. 1, No New Year's Eve/Day Mass

Protestant

- ♦ Dec. 24, 5 p.m., Children's Christmas Eve Service

Jewish

- ♦ Saturday, 6 p.m., Hanukkah party
- For details, call Airman 1st Class Michael Slotten at 452-7688.



Bitburg Annex

Catholic Mass

- ♦ Wednesday, 6 p.m., Advent Penance
- ♦ Dec. 24, 5 p.m., Children's Christmas Eve Mass, followed by birthday Mass reception
- ♦ Dec. 25, 10 a.m., Christmas Day Mass

Protestant

- ♦ Dec. 24, 7:30 p.m., Christmas Eve candlelight service



- ♦ Dec. 24, 9 p.m., Christmas Eve Communion
- ♦ Dec. 31, 10 p.m., New Year's Eve Watch night

Club Eifel Happenings

The following events take place in Club Eifel. Call 452-6090 for more information.

Too bad ...

Tech. Sgt. Steven Morris missed out on \$175, and **Col. Thomas Groznick** missed out on \$25 at the weekly Club Eifel drawing. Members must be present to win cash prizes during the roll call each Friday from 6-8 p.m.

Today

❑ **Stripes Lounge:** Club members enjoy drink specials and a variety of finger foods from 5-8 p.m. A DJ plays music from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

ECL: Commander's social begins at 5 p.m.

Monday

❑ Tap into the "Tower of Power," 100 ounces of beer, for \$10.95. All beer towers are \$2 off.

Tuesday

❑ T'n'T Tuesdays runs from 5-7 p.m. and features tacos and tequila specials.

Wednesday

❑ Ladies Night goes from 8-11 p.m. and features a DJ spinning the latest tunes. Beverages of choice are half price.

Thursday

❑ Bitburger stubbies are \$1 at the Stripes Lounge from 6-10 p.m. and karaoke night runs from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Lunch buffets

❑ **Monday**, Country buffet; **Tuesday**, Mexican buffet; **Wednesday**, Italian buffet; **Thursday**, Tri-Continent buffet; **Friday**, no lunch buffet throughout December

Remember: M&M's Garage is now open evenings, from 5-9 p.m., each Wednesday through Friday.



Der Markt

Free classifieds policy and submission deadlines

Der Markt is for the personal resale of items by military and civilian employees and their families. Items such as advertisements for rental property won't be published due to funded paper restraints. Ads should be 35 words or less and customers are limited to no more than two ads per week. Ads must be typed or printed legibly and turned into the public affairs office, building 23, at least **10 days before the desired date of publication**. Ads can also be e-mailed to publicity@spangdahlem.af.mil or sent via fax to 452-5254. Having ads in by deadline does not guarantee publication. Ads for services generating regular income will not be published. The ads must include the sponsor's name and telephone number. Ads not meeting these requirements, including those exceeding the designated word limits, will not be printed. The Eifel Times staff reserves the right to edit ads.

Movies

The following movie listings are for today through Dec. 16. Times and movies are subject to change. For the most current information, call 06565-61-9441 or 452-9441. Movie synopses are available at www.aafes.com/ems/default.asp.

Spangdahlem Skyline

Today

Ray (PG-13, 7 p.m.)

Ray Charles went blind at the age of seven, but with the support of his determined single mother, he developed incredible talent and discovered his own sound -- which revolutionized American popular music.

Ladder 49 (PG-13, 10 p.m.)

Firefighter Jack Morrison made sacrifices that have taken a toll on his relationship with his family and friends. Those decisions finally come back to haunt Jack when he's trapped in a serious blaze and his career is retold in flashback.

Saturday

Ladder 49 (7 p.m.)

Ray (10 p.m.)

Sunday

First Daughter (PG, 4 p.m.)

The first daughter of the U.S. President heads off to college and falls for a graduate student with a secret agenda.

Raise Your Voice (PG, 7 p.m.)

A girl from a small town heads to the big city to spend the summer at a performing arts school.

Monday

Raise Your Voice (7 p.m.)

Tuesday

First Daughter (7 p.m.)

Closed Wednesday and Thursday

Bitburg Castle

Today

The Forgotten (PG-13, 7 p.m.)

A grieving mother struggles to cope with the loss of her nine-year-old son. She is stunned when her psychiatrist and her husband tell her that she has created eight years of memories of a son she never had.

Surviving Christmas (PG-13, 9:30 p.m.)

Drew is an executive leading an empty, shallow life with only wealth on his side. Facing another lonely Christmas, he revisits his childhood home to relive holiday memories, but finds the house inhabited by another family.

Saturday

Mr. 3000 (PG-13, 7 p.m.)

An aging baseball star who goes by the nickname, "Mr. 3000," finds out many years after his retirement that he did not quite reach 3,000 hits. Now at age 47, he is back to try and reach that goal.

Resident Evil: Apocalypse (R, 9:30 p.m.)

After the re-opening of the Hive and the outbreak of the deadly T-Virus, the infamous Umbrella Corporation quarantines the whole of Raccoon City, disabling anyone at all from leaving in case of possible infection with the outside world.

Sunday

Surviving Christmas (7 p.m.)

Closed Monday and Tuesday

Wednesday

The Forgotten (7 p.m.)

Thursday

Mr. 3000 (7 p.m.)

Celebrate German traditions

By Iris Reiff
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

Many of the older Christmas customs practiced in particular regions of Germany have nearly disappeared.

In many regions, it was customary for people to hold costume parades or to go out caroling and gathering presents. Instead of Christmas trees, or in addition to them, there were Christmas pyramids made of wood. The pyramids, set into whirling motion by the rising heat of the candles, are regaining popularity.

Christmas manger scenes with artistically carved wooden figures are still set up in people's homes and in churches. During the Christmas services, "Krippenspiele," or Christmas plays, were (and in some areas still are) put on. This custom arose in the Middle Ages.

The connection between the Christmas tree and the pre-Christian use of green branches and lights for the religious cult

of winter has often been maintained, but never proven. The connection of the evergreen fir tree with candles can be traced back to early 17th century. Public Christmas trees were first set up in New York in 1912. Since 1919, this tradition has been spreading in Germany.

German Christmas pastry also has a long history.

"Lebkuchen" and other sweet cookies of all kinds are still standard features of the family Christmas celebration in Germany -- and so are "Christstollen" with raisins, nuts and candied lemon and orange peels, as well as festive meals, often including roast goose or turkey.

The celebration of Christmas in Germany may be quieter and more reserved than elsewhere, but Germans, like other people throughout the world, share the same spirit of happiness, joy and love.

Frohe Weihnachten und viel Glueck im Neuen Jahr! -- Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Out and About

(Editor's note: Event dates and times are subject to change. To confirm event details, call the telephone information office at 11833 and ask for a number to the tourist office in the town the event takes place. For event tickets, call the Press-Center Trier at 06511-459930, the Trier Tourist Information Office at 06519-780822 or the Trier Ticket Service at 06519-941188, unless specified.)

- ♦ Enjoy the annual U. S. Air Forces in Europe Band Christmas Concert, **Saturday** at the Bitburg Edith-Stein school.
- ♦ Listen to classical music during a benefit concert **Saturday** at the Trier Kurfuerstliches Palais or Imperial Palace, located near the Roman Basilica.
- ♦ Listen to jazz and blues music by the Essential 4 ensemble **Thursday** at the Trier Tuchfabrik cultural center.
- ♦ Enjoy folk music by the Rambling Rovers **Thursday** at the Trier Tuchfabrik cultural center.
- ♦ Classical music on string instruments takes place **Dec. 17** at the Trier Imperial Palace.
- ♦ Rock music will be played during the Dark-X-Mas Festival **Dec. 18** at the Trier Messepark hall, located at the Moselauen grounds.
- ♦ Listen to classical Christmas music **Dec. 19** at the Bitburg Beda cultural center.
- ♦ See the Gospel All-Stars **Dec. 19** at the Trier Saint Maximum church.
- ♦ A German soul concert by Xavier Naidoo and ensemble takes place **Dec. 21** at the Luxembourg Petange Station.
- ♦ See the popular "Christmas Moments" concert and show performance with Thomas Schwab and Ensemble **Dec. 23** at 8 p.m. at the Trier Arena.
- ♦ Reserve tickets now to the classical New Year's concert by the Young Philharmonic musicians **Jan. 4** at Hall 300 at the former Bitburg Flugplatz.

World War II 60th anniversary events

On Dec. 16, 1944, Hitler's army launched an offensive to reach the port of Antwerp via the Luxembourg Ardennes. The resistance of the American forces turned into the famous Battle of the Bulge. On Feb. 12, 1945, the last remaining German unit was driven out.

The following is a list of upcoming ceremonies and anniversary events in the area:

- ♦ **Thursday**, Night Vigil, Beaufort, Luxembourg, honor the members of the companies of the 60th Armored Infantry Battalion, 9th Armored Division. The cost is 10 euro and includes breakfast and lunch. For details, call Kayser Marcel at 00352-445948.
 - ♦ **Dec. 18**, take a historic walk on the defensive line (20 km., 10 km. or 5 km.), Bastogne, Belgium. To sign up for the walk, call Isabella Collet at the Hotel de Ville at 061-240-96 or e-mail her at i.collet@bastogne.be.
 - ♦ **Dec. 22-23**, enjoy an all-night ceremony in "Schankegriecht" near Pratz, Luxembourg, honoring the 104th Infantry Regiment, 26th Infantry Division. For details, visit www.ww2-museum.org/YD.
 - ♦ **Jan. 22**, Crossing of the Suere River, Diekirch, Luxembourg -- further details to follow
 - ♦ **Feb. 27**, National Resistance Day, Luxembourg City -- further details to follow
- For more information on 60th anniversary-related events and memorials, visit <http://www.amba.lu> or <http://www.ww2societyeurope.org/>.



Christmas Markets



Here is a list of Weihnachtsmaerkte open throughout the Christmas season. Most markets are usually open at 10 a.m. and close about 6 or 7 p.m.

- ♦ Aachen, **now** through **Dec. 20**
- ♦ Cologne, markets throughout city include Rheinpromenade, **now** through **Dec. 21**; medieval market at the Chocolate museum, **now** through **Dec. 23**; at the cathedral, **now** through **Dec. 23**
- ♦ Frankfurt, **now** through **Dec. 22**
- ♦ Koblenz, **now** through **Dec. 22**
- ♦ Trier, **now** through **Dec. 22**
- ♦ Kaiserslautern, **now** through **Dec. 22**

- ♦ Speyer, **now** through **Dec. 22**
- ♦ Rothenberg ob der Tauber, **now** through **Dec. 22**
- ♦ Leipzig, **now** through **Dec. 22**
- ♦ Koblenz, **now** through **Dec. 22**
- ♦ Mannheim, **now** through **Dec. 23**
- ♦ Bonn, **now** through **Dec. 23**
- ♦ Mainz, **now** through **Dec. 23**
- ♦ Antwerp, Belgium, **now** through **Dec. 23**
- ♦ Duesseldorf, **now** through **Dec. 23**
- ♦ Mainz, **now** through **Dec. 23**
- ♦ Wiesbaden, **now** through **Dec. 23**

- ♦ Munich has several markets. The most popular Christkindlmarkt is open **now** through **Dec. 24** on Marienplatz.
- ♦ Luxembourg City, **now** through **Dec. 24**
- ♦ Metz, France, **now** through **Dec. 24**
- ♦ Augsburg, **now** through **Dec. 24**
- ♦ Dresden, **now** through **Dec. 24**
- ♦ Strasbourg, France, **now** through **Dec. 31**
- ♦ Brugge, Belgium, **now** through **Jan. 2**
- ♦ Brussels, Belgium, **now** through **Jan. 2**

(Right) Ryan Dumas (left), son of Dawn Baltadonis, 52nd Services Squadron, looks for an open teammate to pass the ball to during the Bitburg Barons' first home game against Detachment 6, 2nd Air Postal Squadron, Brussels, Belgium, Brigands team. The Barons beat the Brigands 69-29.

(Below) Nichole Griep, Bitburg Barons number 33, daughter of Maj. Stephen Griep, 52nd Medical Operations Squadron, catches air at the Barons' first home game Friday against the Brigands. The Lady Barons won 21-14.



Barons basketball

Photos by 2nd Lt. Shannon Collins

Staff reports

The Bitburg High School Barons boy's and girl's basketball teams started off strong during their first home game Friday and Saturday against teams from Detachment 6, 2nd Air Postal Squadron, Brussels, Belgium, and the Allied Forces North Europe, Brunssum, Netherlands.

Capitalizing on the speed of their defense, the Barons boy's team lanced the Brussels Brigands -- winning 69-29, and

then whipped the AFNORTH Lions, 68-29.

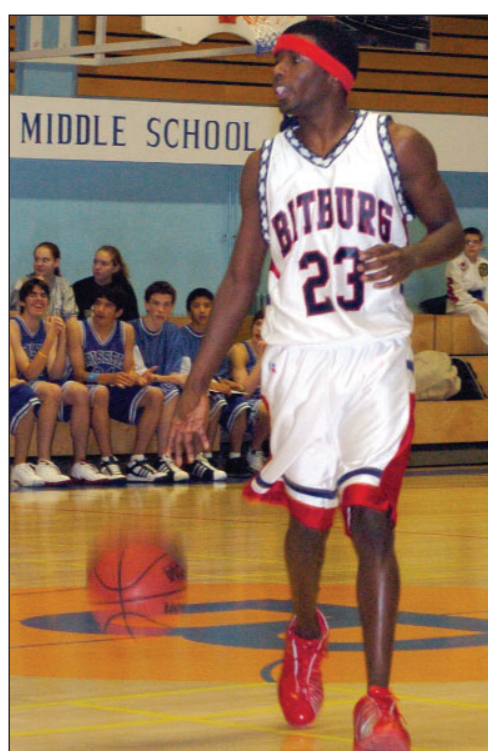
The Lady Barons led throughout their match against the Brigands and defeated them 21-14. The team then came up against the Lions, their perennial tough opponent, and with an intensified and rejuvenated second half, beat the Lions 23-18.

(BHS Barons basketball coaches Lin Hairstone, Jr. and David Turner contributed to this article).



(Above) The BHS cheerleading squad 'cheers up' the crowd during their half-time performance Friday in the Bitburg Middle School gymnasium.

(Left) Junior guard Aqual Hodges, son of Master Sgt. Alfred Hodges, 52nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, dribbles the ball downcourt during the game against the Brigands.



Sports Briefs

Tannenbaum ski club

The Tannenbaum Ski Club meets the first and third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Landstuhl Combined Club. Sign up for the following upcoming trips: Siegi Tours at St. Veit #1, Dec. 19-25; St. Veit #2, Jan. 30 to Feb. 5; Dolomites, Dec. 26 to Jan. 2; Chamonix, Zell Am See, or Crans Montana, Jan. 14-17; Gstaad, Feb. 4-6; Four Valleys, Portes de Soleil, Bad Gastein, Feb 18-21. Visit www.TannenbaumSkiClub.com for more information.

Fitness center closures

All day today, through Sunday, the Spangdahlem AB fitness center gymnasium floor will be closed for Operation Season's Greetings. Locker rooms will be closed Saturday from 9 a.m. to Sunday at noon. The front door of the fitness center will be locked Saturday, and entry will only be available through the cardio room doors. Call Sharon Grays at 452-6251 for more information.

FitLinxx prizes

Log-on to FitLinxx today for a chance to win lots of prizes. Earn at least 15,000 points to win Combat Fitness t-shirts, polo shirts, hats, socks, duffel bags and sweatshirts. Everyone is eligible to participate. People must enter their

workouts in FitLinxx, and they can register today at the fitness center or at the Web site at http://spangdahlem.fitlinxx.com/community/hosted/ov_spangdahlem.htm. For details, call the base fitness center at 452-6496.

Power tumbling class

Don't let this opportunity tumble away. Learn power tumbling techniques that can help with cheerleading, dance, gymnastics or just for fun at the gymnastics loft at Bitburg Annex, building 77. The cost varies on the time frame of the class, and payment is due the first day of class -- no later than the 15th of each month. Register at the Spangdahlem Youth Center. For more information, call Sally Fuller at 452-7545.

Football frenzy

It's time to tackle this year's football season with Club Eifel's Football Frenzy, held at the Brick House each Sunday from 4 p.m. to midnight, and each Tuesday at 7 p.m., until the Superbowl. Watch teams square off on three 100-inch screen TVs with surround sound. Enjoy comfy lounge chairs, snacks and drinks. Register to win prizes such as football tickets, plasma TVs, gaming systems and more. For details, call Kim McElfresh at 452-7381.

Intramural throw-down

Be a part of the Spangdahlem AB New Year's intramural throw-down Jan. 7-9 at 6 p.m. at the Skelton Memorial Fitness Center. The tournament is open to all intramural basketball teams, and the entry fee is \$100. Deadline to register is Jan. 3. For details, call Senior Master Sgt. Johnny Collett at 452-2724, Staff Sgt. Foster Gilbert at 452-6634 or Mark Warner at 452-6634.

Cardio class

The new Movin' and Groovin' cardio class takes place each Monday from 4-5 p.m. at the Bitburg Annex fitness center. This fun, new choreographed cardio class slowly adds in one step at a time to give participants a full-body workout. For more information, call De Shane Casillas at 452-6496.

Personal training

Take advantage of a special holiday offer at the Spangdahlem AB fitness center. Receive \$5 off each individual training session purchased during the month of January. For details, call Nicole Holt at 0656396-2144 or e-mail her at dnh@usa.com.